

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments to the specification, claims and abstract is respectfully requested prior to examination of the present application. The amendments to the specification and abstract are for correcting typographical and/or grammatical errors found therein and to place the specification and abstract in better form for U.S. practice. No new matter has been added by these amendments. The amendments made to the claims are to clarify the claims, to correct grammatical errors therein, and to place the claims in a more appropriate form for U.S. practice. None of the claim amendments are intended to narrow their scope, and none of the claim amendments are for purposes of patentability.

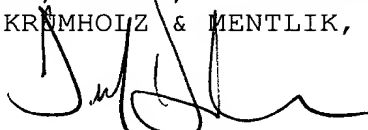
A Request to Amend Drawings to correct certain errors in this application accompanies this Preliminary Amendment.

If any additional fees are to be incurred in connection with this amendment, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to our Deposit Account No.: 12-1095.

Early examination and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRONHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP



TIMOTHY J. LUBECKI
Reg. No. 38,953

600 South Avenue West
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
Telephone: (908) 654-5000
Facsimile: (908) 654-7866
290553_1.DOC